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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Andrew Baxter et al.
Serial No. :
Filed : Herewith
Title : NOVEL COMPOUNDS

Art Unit : Unknown
Examiner : Unknown

**Box PCT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

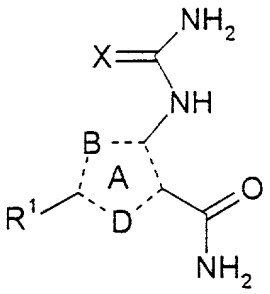
Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claims 13-19 without prejudice.

Amend claims 3-6, 9, 10, 12, 20 and 21 as follows:

-- 3. (Amended) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, in which the group A is substituted as shown below in formula (Ia), where B and D are selected from $CR^2$, S, O and $NR^{25}$, where $R^2$ is as defined in Claim 1 and $R^{25}$ is hydrogen or $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl:




(Ia)

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June 22, 2001
Date of Deposit

Samantha Bell
Signature

Samantha Bell
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

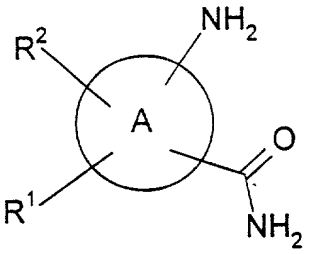
4. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which the ring A is thiophene.

5. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which $R^1$ represents optionally substituted phenyl.

6. (Amended) A compound according to claim 1 in which $R^2$ represents H or methyl.

9. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), according to claim 1, which comprises:

(a) reaction of a compound of formula (II):



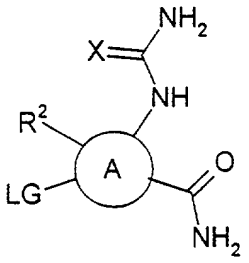

(II)

wherein A, $R^1$ and $R^2$ are as defined in Claim 1 with an isocyanate (X = O) or an isothiocyanate (X = S); or

(b) reaction of compound of formula (III)with a compound of formula (IV)

R1-Metal

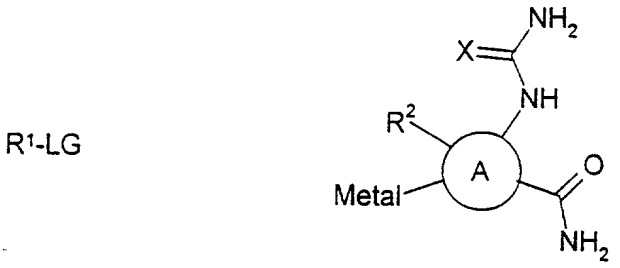
(III)




(IV)

wherein A, X, $R^1$ and $R^2$ are as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group; or

(c) reaction of compound of formula (V)with a compound of formula (VI)




(V) (VI)

wherein A, X, $R^1$ and $R^2$ are as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group;

and where necessary converting the resultant compound of formula (I), or another salt thereof, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into a further compound of formula (I); and where desired converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into an optical isomer thereof.

10. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in claim 1, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

12. (Amended) A compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in claim 1 for use in therapy.

20. (Amended) A method of treating an IKK2 mediated disease which comprises administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in claim 1.

21. (Amended) A method of treating an inflammatory disease in a patient suffering from, or at risk of, said disease, which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in claim 1.--

## REMARKS

Claims 1 to 12 and 20-25 are pending in this application, claims 13-19 having been cancelled. Claims 3-6, 9, 10, 12-15, 20 and 21 are amended to delete multiple dependency. No new matter has been added.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Applicant asks that all pending claims be examined. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 22, 2001

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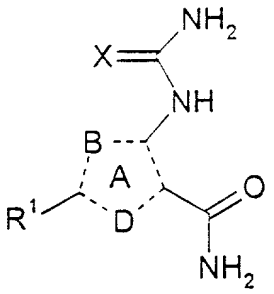
## Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Cancel claims 13-19 without prejudice.

Claims 3-6, 9, 10, 12, 20 and 21 have been amended as follows:

3. (Amended) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1 [or Claim 2], in which the group A is substituted as shown below in formula (Ia), where B and D are selected from $CR^2$, S, O and $NR^{25}$, where $R^2$ is as defined in Claim 1 and $R^{25}$ is hydrogen or $C_1$-$C_6$ alkyl:




(Ia)

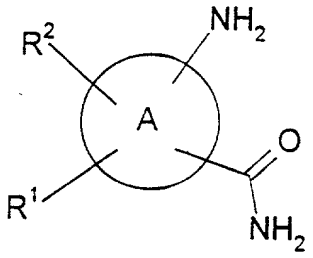
4. (Amended) A compound according to [any one of Claims 1 to 3] claim 1 in which the ring A is thiophene.

5. (Amended) A compound according to [any one of Claims 1 to 4] claim 1 in which $R^1$ represents optionally substituted phenyl.

6. (Amended) A compound according to [any one of Claims 1 to 5] claim 1 in which $R^2$ represents H or methyl.

9. (Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), according to [any one of Claims 1 to 8] claim 1, which comprises:

(a) reaction of a compound of formula (II):

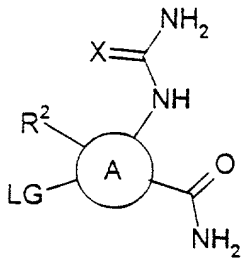



(II)

wherein A, $R^1$ and $R^2$ are as defined in Claim 1 with an isocyanate (X = O) or an isothiocyanate (X = S); or

(b) reaction of compound of formula (III)with a compound of formula (IV)

$R^1$-Metal

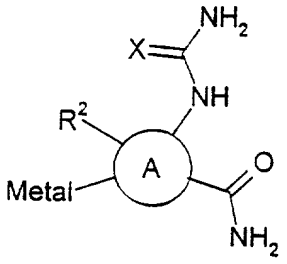



(III) (IV)

wherein A, X, $R^1$ and $R^2$ are as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group; or

(c) reaction of compound of formula (V)with a compound of formula (VI)

$R^1$-LG




(V) (VI)

wherein A, X, $R^1$ and $R^2$ are as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group;

and where necessary converting the resultant compound of formula (I), or another salt

thereof, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into a further compound of formula (I); and where desired converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into an optical isomer thereof.

10. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 8] claim 1, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

12. (Amended) A compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 8] claim 1 for use in therapy.

20. (Amended) A method of treating an IKK2 mediated disease which comprises administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 8] claim 1.

21. (Amended) A method of treating an inflammatory disease in a patient suffering from, or at risk of, said disease, which comprises administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 8] claim 1.